

BRIEFING

21st century communications from the City of Bloomington

Volume 9, Number 3

June 2001

Arts in the Parks - page 4

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Word from the Mayor
Environmental Health protects the public's health. *Page 2.*

Fall Election dates
The 2001 elections schedule for Council at Large, Council District III and Council District IV is:
• Tuesday, **July 3** - Filing opens.
• Tuesday, **July 17** at 5 p.m. - Filing closes.
• Tuesday, **September 11** - Municipal Primary Election.
• Tuesday, **November 6** - Municipal General Election.

For information, call the City Clerk's office at 952-563-8729 or visit our Web site at www.ci.bloomington.mn.us.

Strength in numbers
The City's annual financial report is presented. *Pages CR1 - CR8.*

Life is Like a Valued Patchwork

Sign up for the monthly continental breakfast programs offered at Creekside.

June 27 - Schoolhouse Memories - Photographer Doug Ohman returns with new photos and stories.

July 25 - A Half-Acre of Hell - Bloomington author Avis Schorer shares her World War II memories as a nurse.

August 22 - Sleep from A to Zzzzzz - Discover the secrets to sleeping well. Cost is \$3, payable at the door. To register, call 952-563-4957 V/TTY. Need a ride? Call 952-563-4948.

National Night Out
Bloomington's 12th annual National Night Out will be **Tuesday, August 7.** Last year, 10,000 residents from 235 neighborhoods joined forces to prevent crime. Police squads, K-9 units, fire trucks and paramedic units showed support by visiting block parties. Registration materials will soon be mailed to block captains. For more information, call 952-563-8808.



Book 'em
The Bloomington Crime Prevention Association seeks used books, CDs, videos, records and tapes for the **Ninth Annual Used Book Sale** to be held **July 13 - August 4.** For



Facilities Update

Water - clearly a valuable resource

Public Works' Utilities Division works hard to make sure Bloomington residents have high quality drinking water. To meet the needs of residents and businesses, the Water Treatment Plant is expanding its capacity. However, there are steps each of us can take to preserve this precious resource.

Let's work together to ensure an abundance of water for many years to come.

Digging in: Water Treatment Plant under construction

Expansion did not require an increase in water utility fees for 2001.
For more on the Water Treatment Plant construction costs, see page CR6.

For more on City Facilities and Public Works construction, see page CR8.

If you have been in the area of Poplar Bridge Road and Normandale Boulevard, you may have noticed the mounds of dirt. The Water Treatment Plant expansion project is in full operation.

Groundbreaking

Construction began in September 2000 with a groundbreaking ceremony. Attendees included neighbors, City staff, Mayor Gene Winstead and Councilmember Mike Fossum.

Increased capacity

When complete, Bloomington will increase groundwater treatment capacity to 14 million gallons per day. Other construction modifications include two new deep wells, expanded laboratory facilities to test and monitor the drinking water in compliance with state and federal standards and stand-by power generation. Completion is scheduled for June 2002.

Inspection and repair

Throughout the construction, existing infrastructure is regularly inspected and repaired. For example, a 26-year-old underground storage tank that had moderate "wear and tear" was discovered and restored.

Supplemental water

Slight changes in water taste and odor may occasionally be observed during the construction period. These aesthetic changes to the water will happen when the groundwater plant is "out of service" for construction purposes. In this case, the City of Minneapolis will provide the water, which meets all state and federal water standards and regulations.

Since the 1960s, Bloomington has had a contractual agreement with the City of Minneapolis to provide a minimum average of two million gallons of water per day with a maximum of 30 gallons of water per day.

For more information, call Glen Gerads, Utilities Manager, at 952-563-8775 or e-mail ggerads@ci.bloomington.mn.us. ♦

Water work

Bloomington residents and businesses used 4.32 billion gallons of water in 2000 - 11.8 million gallons of water per day. Over the next 20 years, our average demand is expected to grow to 14 million gallons per day. The Sam Hobbs Water Treatment Plant is expanding to meet these needs. The plant's expanded capacity will increase reliability, flexibility and overall water quality. This will allow the City to continue providing high quality water in the requested quantities well into the future. ♦

Safe drinking water for all

How is the safety of drinking water ensured in Minnesota? A statewide program tests public and private water supplies. In 1976, the Minnesota Department of Health (MNDH) enacted the Safe Drinking Water Program in response to an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulation. The EPA requires that all water supplies be tested for 120 chemicals.

Beginning in 1992, a \$5.21 per year fee has been assessed to every Minnesota water service connection to cover sampling, analysis and reporting costs. Approximately 8,000 communities are tested and funded through this program each year.

Bloomington has 25,300 water service connections. The fees, collected through the City's utility bill, are forwarded to the MNDH.

For more information, call Bob Cockriel at 952-563-8774 or e-mail rcockriel@ci.bloomington.mn.us. ♦

Ways to reduce water use

Water is a precious natural resource. To preserve it, follow these water conservation tips:

Landscaping

- ♦ Keep grass length at three inches to allow roots to grow. Deeply rooted grass requires less water.
- ♦ Aerate clay soils once a year to retain soil moisture.
- ♦ Collect rainwater for garden and houseplant watering.
- ♦ Mulch around plants, bushes and trees to encourage healthy roots and maintain moisture.

Household

- ♦ Turn water off while brushing your teeth or shaving.
- ♦ Run a fully loaded dishwasher.
- ♦ When handwashing dishes, use separate sink basins for washing and rinsing.
- ♦ Store a pitcher of water in the refrigerator for drinking.
- ♦ Repair leaky faucets and replace worn washers - a common source for leaks.
- ♦ Install water-saving devices on showerheads and toilets.

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Services that strengthen our community

Mayor Gene Winstead

Environmental Health Services – Protecting the health of our community

This series highlights some of the many City services that are performed with quiet efficiency in the background of our busy lives. Over the course of the year, we look in-depth at these services that strengthen our community.



MONITORING POLLUTION

Most of us take the safety of our surroundings for granted. We don't think about the health implications of eating at a restaurant, buying groceries, living in our home or apartment, or spending a summer's day at the beach.

We expect, for example, that our food and water are safe. We trust our community to protect us from potential health hazards in the environment. It is through the services provided by Environmental Health Services that this confidence is built.

Opportunity to serve

Environmental Health provides a healthy and aesthetically appealing environment for residents and businesses in Bloomington. Through education, training, inspections and enforcement, health hazards can be recognized and prevented.



INSPECTING FOR FOOD SAFETY

Safe food

Environmental Health inspectors perform 2,000 food and follow-up inspections on more than 600 establishments in Bloomington each year.

Food safety policies and procedures of the Minnesota Uniform Food Code and City ordinances are enforced in restaurants, day care facilities,

nursing homes and grocery and convenience stores. Inspectors look for ways to prevent food-borne illnesses through education on safe holding temperatures, the proper reheating and cooling of food and good personal hygiene practices.



ENSURING QUALITY HOUSING

Quality housing

To ensure rental housing stock does not fall below an acceptable standard, Environmental Health inspects nearly all multiple-housing and single-family rental units every year. Staff inspects plumbing, electricity, smoke detectors, furnaces and water heaters to make sure all are working properly. If there are problems, owners are contacted for repair.

Enhancing neighborhoods

City inspections programs reduce complaints about property violations by keeping residents informed on City codes. Proactive inspections catch violations before they become chronic. The programs are an important health benefit because nuisance violations lead to blight, infestation of pests and rodents, and create fire and safety hazards.

The citywide **Systematic Inspections Program** involves drive-by inspections of all properties twice a year – a total of 50,000 site visits. Inspectors stop if they see a violation.

The **Community Enhancement Program** is offered in two city neighborhoods each

year. This intensive initiative includes a thorough inspection of property conditions and home improvement loans offered

by the Bloomington Housing and Redevelopment Authority.

More initiatives

Other areas in which Environmental Health Services ensures quality include:

- ◆ Monitoring noise levels of transportation such as trains, automobiles and airplanes.
- ◆ Working with industry to reduce and remove air pollution.
- ◆ Conducting inspections of all hotels and motels to ensure compliance with state and local ordinances.
- ◆ Ensuring that only licensed applicators apply herbicide around our lakes and wetlands in order to protect wildlife, fish and native plant species.
- ◆ Monitoring all new and abandoned wells to make sure they are properly constructed or sealed to prevent ground water contamination.
- ◆ Containing hazardous spills



"At the end of the day, service means we did our utmost to protect residents and visitors as well as the environment. My staff and I see each person as an opportunity to serve."

Petrona Lee, Manager, Environmental Health Services

to prevent the pollution of our soil and water.

Quality of life

The quality of life is enhanced in our community thanks to the efforts of Environmental Health Services. This translates to healthy eating, buying, renting or recreating. When we consider the safety of these daily activities, we can have peace of mind – another service the City of Bloomington provides. ◆

A fun-filled event tailored for children, teens and adults! Camp offers safety lessons

An Intergenerational Safety Camp and open house, sponsored by the Community Services Department and its divisions of Human Services, Parks and Recreation, and Public Health, will be held for residents of all ages and abilities. Information and activities include:

- ◆ In-line skating and bike safety.
- ◆ Smoke-filled house demonstrations.
- ◆ Fire truck, school bus and ambulance safety.
- ◆ Fall prevention.
- ◆ K-9 cop demonstrations.
- ◆ Personal safety.

When:

Saturday, August 11.

Time: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Where:

Creekside Community Center, 9801 Penn Avenue South.

Admission:

Free. No advance registration required.

For more information, call the Human Services Information Line at 952-563-4957 V/TTY. ◆

City to update zoning ordinance

As with most municipal zoning ordinances, Bloomington's ordinances were written in pieces over the last 50 years. This process led to a document that is difficult to navigate. To improve customer service, the Planning Division will embark on a program to update the zoning ordinance over the next few years.

User-friendly document

The update will enhance readability and reduce areas

that require interpretation. Staff will utilize new technologies to make the document user-friendly. For example, the Web site would be updated with links that can transport a reader from the legal language in the zoning ordinance to an explanatory brochure, illustrative graphic or application form.

For more information

In addition to guidance from the City Council and

Planning Commission, this project will require the help of residents and the business community. To participate in a focus group, call Planner Glen Markegard at 952-563-8920 or e-mail: planning@ci.bloomington.mn.us.

Bloomington's current zoning ordinance, along with the entire City Code, is available online at www.ci.bloomington.mn.us. ◆

City Council

Mayor	Gene Winstead	952-888-1258(h)
	mayor@ci.bloomington.mn.us	
Councilmembers	council@ci.bloomington.mn.us	
At Large	Dave Abrams	952-885-0506(h)
At Large	Mike Fossum	952-885-9056(h) 612-673-3645(w)
District II	Heather Harden	952-835-5919(h)
District III	Alisa Ornat	952-944-1156(h)
District I	Steve Peterson	952-884-3262(h)
District IV	Vern Wilcox	952-854-1425(h)
City Manager	Mark Bernhardson	952-563-8780
	citymanager@ci.bloomington.mn.us	

We are accessible!

Stop by or write:

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2215 W. Old Shakopee Road
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Phone:

952-563-8700

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dkirby@ci.bloomington.mn.us

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www.ci.bloomington.mn.us

More options:

For Braille, larger print or computer disk, contact Diann Kirby, 952-563-8818.

The City of Bloomington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status or status with regard to public assistance in employment or the provision of services. The City of Bloomington does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs or activities. Upon request, accommodation will be provided to allow individuals with disabilities to participate in all City of Bloomington services, programs and activities. The City has designated coordinators to facilitate compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), as required by Section 35.107 of the U.S. Department of Justice Regulations, and to coordinate compliance with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as mandated by Section 8.53 of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Regulations. For information, contact the Human Services Division, City of Bloomington, 2215 West Old Shakopee Road, Bloomington MN 55431-3096; phone: 952-

PARKS, RECREATION & ARTS UPDATE

For more information or to register for programs, call Parks and Recreation at 952-563-8877.



Bush Lake Beach

Throw on swimsuits, pack up the kids and head for the beach! Enjoy one of our city's finest natural resources this summer. Bush Lake Beach features a beach house with changing rooms and a concession stand. Don't forget the sunscreen!

When: June 9 - August 26, 12 noon - 8 p.m.

Swimming lessons at Bush Lake

Taught by American Red Cross Water Safety Instructors to children, ages 5 and older, each nine-lesson session meets weekdays for two weeks. Enrollment is limited. If weather requires cancellation, Fridays are reserved for make-up lessons. Students will demonstrate their skills on the first day of each session and may be transferred to a skill level better suited to their abilities.

When: Session I: June 18 - 22 and June 25 - 29
Session II: July 9 - 13 and July 16 - 20
Session III: July 23 - 27 and July 30 - August 3
Times: 10:15 - 10:55 a.m. or 11:05 - 11:45 a.m.
Cost: \$32.

Pool closed

Valley View Pool will be closed for renovation during the 2001 season. The new Bloomington Family Aquatic Center is scheduled to reopen in June 2002. This summer, Bloomington residents with season passes can use the pool in Richfield or St. Louis Park without paying out-of-city fees. ♦

Adult Sports

Adult Tennis Lessons – USA TENNIS 1-2-3

Who: Ages 18 and over.
Skill Level: I – *Instruction:* Learn basic skills with innovative teaching techniques, drills and games.
II – *Supervised Play:* Low-key doubles play. Learn strategy, tiebreakers, scoring and service rotation with a variety of tennis players.

Where/When: **Bryant Park**, 1001 W. 85th Street.
Session I: Tuesday/Thursday, June 12 - 28
Level I: 10 a.m. or 11 a.m.
Session II: Tuesday/Thursday, July 10 - 26
Level I: 10 a.m. Level II: 11 a.m.
Dred Scott, 10820 Bloomington Ferry Road.
Session I: Monday/Wednesday, June 11 - 27
Level I: 6 p.m. Level II: 7 p.m.
Session II: Monday/Wednesday, July 9-25
Level I: 7 p.m. Level II: 8 p.m.
Session III: Monday/Wednesday, July 30 - Aug 15
Level I: 7 p.m. Level II: 8 p.m.

Cost: \$27 per person for six one-hour lessons.
Class size: Minimum 4 students; maximum 8.
To register: Pre-registration required.

Daytime Volleyball

Here is your chance to exercise and enjoy volleyball during the mornings. All games are played at the Bloomington National Guard Armory. You don't need a team; just show up. Teams are formed each week.

When: All year, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Cost: \$1 per session.



Parks and Recreation, Community Education, Kids' Safari and the Art Center have created this joint program for youth, grades 1 - 6. Held at Olson Elementary, parents can choose from a variety of classes, activities, camps and child-care. Summer Spectrum runs from June 18 - August 17. For more information, call Bloomington Community Education at 952-885-7601 or Parks and Recreation at 952-563-8877. ♦



Adaptive Recreation and Learning Exchange

AR&LE offers opportunities for people with disabilities to actively participate in recreational, leisure and community education programs in the cities of Bloomington, Eden Prairie, Edina and Richfield. Activities are available for various ability levels in inclusive or segregated settings. The City makes every reasonable effort to ensure residents can participate in the programs. For a complete listing of AR&LE's quarterly activities or to volunteer, call Parks and Recreation. ♦

Summer Programs for Youth

Tiny Tots Try Mini-Camp

Ages 3 - 6.

Pre-school children are invited to discover the world around them through group play, music, crafts, story-telling and nature activities. A 1:10 teacher/student ratio is maintained. Children must be at least three years old and toilet-trained by the first day of each session.

When: Monday - Thursday,
Session 1 June 18 - 21
Session 2 June 25 - 28
Session 3 July 9 - 11
Session 4 July 23 - 26
Session 5 July 30 - August 2
Session 6 August 6 - 9
Where: Moir Park, 104th and Morgan Avenue S.
Time: 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.
Cost: \$35.

Summer Adventure Playgrounds

Ages 6 - 15.

Join your friends for a great summer of fun! Games, sports, story time, arts and crafts, carnivals and special weekly events. Adult directors who are experienced in recreation and youth leadership supervise summer playgrounds.

When: Tuesday - Friday, June 12 - August 10.
(Wednesday, July 4 - no program.)
Where: Brookside, Bryant, Brye, Kelly, Poplar Bridge, Running, Smith, Sunrise and Westwood Parks.
Time: 10:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Cost: No cost for daily activities. Fees required for special activities and events. Registration required.

Day Camp Kota

Ages 7 - 12.

Camp Kota provides an opportunity to learn basic camping skills and develop an appreciation for the outdoors. Children will explore nature crafts, nature study, knots, camp craft skills and meal preparation. Activities include swimming, canoeing, arts and crafts, games, field trips and an overnight camp-out. Each session includes an afternoon with a Park Naturalist and a field trip to a water park.

When: Monday - Friday,
Session 1 July 23 - 27
Session 2 July 30 - August 3
Session 3 August 6 - 10
Session 4 August 13 - 17
Where: East Bush Lake.
Time: 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Cost: \$110 per week.
Transport: Transportation provided to and from camp except on Friday mornings. Bus stops include Countryside Park, Haeg Park, Lutheran High School, Oak Grove Elementary, Olson Elementary, Poplar Bridge Park, Reynolds Park, Ridgeview Elementary, Running Park, Southwood Elementary and Sunrise Park. ♦

Galaxy Youth Center

8900 Portland Ave. S.

Who: Youth in grades 6 - 9.
When: June 25 - August 17
Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Thursdays, 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Weekends, Closed.
Cost: Summer pass \$15; daily \$.50.

Activities include leadership training, field trips, open gym, community service projects, cooking, crafts, arts and more.

Facilities include game room, computer center, TV lounge and access to pool and gym.

Thursday nights include special programming such as barbecues, dances, talent shows and lock-ins.

For more information, call 952-885-8548.

Buses: Students may take a Summer Spectrum bus to Olson Elementary and then transfer to the Galaxy bus. An activity bus will leave Galaxy and return students home around 5 to 6 p.m. Students may also catch a bus from Galaxy to Olson and ride home on the 12 noon bus. For questions on transportation, call 952-885-7862.

Galaxy is a partnership between the City of Bloomington, Bloomington Public Schools and other community organizations.

Summer 2001



Bloomington Art Center Summer day camps and classes

When: June 11 - August 24

Summer day camps for youth, ages three and a half to six years, provide a fun, multi-media experience in the visual arts with a different theme each week. For information or to request a copy of the summer catalog, call the **Bloomington Art Center** at 952-563-4777 or visit www.bloomingtonartcenter.com. ♦



Arts in the Parks

Where can you go for great entertainment this summer? Bloomington parks! Bring a blanket or a lawn chair and sit back and enjoy a variety of performing artists and special events.

For more information or in case of inclement weather, call the Bloomington Parks and Recreation Division's 24-hour information line at 952-563-8878.

JUNE

Sa 2	7 p.m.	Midsummer Night's Dream	Pond-Dakota
Tu 12	7 p.m.	Stomp N' Dixie	Gene Kelly
Th 14	7 p.m.	City Scape Dance	Creekside
Su 17	1 - 4 p.m. 1 p.m. 1:30 p.m. 2 p.m. 2:30 p.m.	Sandcastles Alpha Bits-Kids Music A to Z Becky Brom Puppets Steps Dance Wiggle, Jiggle and Jam	Bush Lake Beach
M 18	10:30 a.m.	Monday Morning in the Park, Jack Pearson, Mr. Song Strummin' Story Man	Reynolds
Th 21	7 p.m.	Katy Tessman, local singer/songwriter	Valley View
M 25	10:30 a.m.	Monday Morning in the Park, Splatter Sisters	Running
Tu 26	7 p.m.	Holy Emmanuel Praise Worship Team	Gene Kelly
Th 28	7 p.m.	Musical Avenues, Li'l Bit of Broadway	Valley View

JULY

Tu 3	5 - 10 p.m. 5 - 5:45 p.m. 6 - 6:45 p.m. 7 - 7:45 p.m. 8:15 p.m. Dusk	Summer Fete Splatter Sisters Teddy Bear Band Barbary Coast Medalist Concert Band with soloist Carolyn Pratt FIREWORKS!	Normandale Lake
M 9	10:30 a.m.	Monday Morning in the Park, Mike Monson, Juggler	Gene Kelly
Th 12	7 p.m.	After 5	Moir
M 16	10:30 a.m.	Monday Morning in the Park, Tricia and the Toonies	Brye
Th 19	7 p.m.	Musical Avenues, First Steps to Broadway	Valley View
M 23	10:30 a.m.	Monday Morning in the Park, Amazing Jeffo	Smith
W 25	7 p.m.	The Medicine Show, vaudeville-style ensemble	Moir
M 30	10:30 a.m.	Monday Morning in the Park, Wonderful World of Woody	Brookside
M 30	7 p.m.	Talent Show Auditions	Creekside

AUGUST

W 1	7 p.m.	Bradley Joseph Band	Normandale Lake
F 3	7 p.m.	Talent Show	Creekside
Su 5	7 p.m.	John Phillip Sousa Band	Pond-Dakota
M 6	10:30 a.m.	Monday Morning in the Park, Becky Brom Puppets	Tarnhill
Th 9	7 p.m.	Monroe Crossing	Normandale Lake
M 13	10:30 a.m.	Monday Morning in the Park, Mike Monson, Juggler	Countryside Playground
W 15	7 p.m.	Greenwood Tree Folk Duo	Normandale Lake
Su 19	1:30 - 5 p.m. 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. 2:45 - 3:45 p.m. 4 - 5 p.m.	Bloomington Jazz Festival Ellington Echos Memorial Band Voice Trek Axis Mundi	Normandale Lake
M 20	10:30 a.m.	Monday Morning in the Park, Will Hale and the Tadpole Parade	Moir

SEPTEMBER

Sa 22	9 a.m. - 5 p.m.	River Rendezvous	Pond-Dakota Mission
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Every day of every week,
Bloomington parks are great fun for **EVERYONE!**

Summer Fete

Gather your family and friends beginning at **5 p.m. on Tuesday, July 3, at Normandale Lake Park**, 84th Street and Normandale Boulevard, for an evening of music and fun. Summer Fete features patriotic performances, fireworks and entertainment. Refreshments are available. Parking is across 84th Street. For information, or in case of inclement weather, call the Parks and Recreation 24-hour information line at 952-563-8878.

Summer Fete is an All-American festival that needs your assistance. Use the envelope recently sent in your water bill or call 952-563-8877 for details on ordering Summer Fete T-shirts and buttons or to make a donation. ♦

Celebrate the Grand Opening of the Normandale Lake Bandshell!

2nd Annual Norman Conquest Walk/Run/Wheelchair Race Benefiting the Arthritis Foundation

When: Saturday, July 7, start time to be announced.

Where: Normandale College, 9700 France Ave. S.

For more information, call Chris Fuller, race director, 651-228-1986. ♦

Arts in the Parks Audition/Talent Show

When: Audition - Monday, July 30, 7 p.m.
Talent Show - Friday, August 3, 7 p.m.

Where: Creekside Center, 9801 Penn Ave. S.

This annual show features amateur talent in the performing arts. Individuals or groups display their abilities to earn recognition or special awards. To audition, you must supply information about your specific talents and list any stage experience. ♦

American Cancer Society's Relay for Life

When: Friday - Saturday, August 3 - 4.

Where: Bloomington Stadium, W. 90th St. at Queen Ave.

Join in fundraising efforts to eliminate cancer through prevention, research, education and service. For more information call the American Cancer Society at 952-925-6332. ♦

Benefit for Bloomington Athletic Association 18-Hole Golf Scramble and Scholarship Fundraiser

When: Sunday, August 19.

Time: Tee times start at 12 noon.

Where: Dwan Golf Course, 3301 W. 110th Street.

Cost: \$50 per person includes cart, food and prizes.

Corporate sponsors and prize donations are needed. For more information, call Jim Hunt at 952-830-0908. ♦

Bloomington Jazz Festival

When: Sunday, August 19, 1 - 5 p.m.

Where: Normandale Lake Park, 84th St. at Normandale.

Make this a "must hear" event! Park in the 8500 Tower Ramp of Normandale Lake Office Park on 84th Street. Refreshments are available. Relax and enjoy great jazz. ♦

River Rendezvous... A step back in time

When: Monday - Saturday, September 17 - 22.

Where: Pond-Dakota Mission Park, 401 E. 104th Street.

The 2001 River Rendezvous Steering Committee invites you to get involved in the Rendezvous by volunteering to assist with this unique living history event. River Rendezvous authentically depicts 19th century life with historic reenactments of life on the frontier - the fur trade/voyageur era of Native American and early settlers. Since 1995, more than 40,000 elementary-aged school children have watched the past come alive through weeklong programs designed to teach history through a hands-on approach. For more information or to volunteer, call 952-563-8877. ♦